

DUAL OPERATION TRIPE WASHING AND REFINING MACHINE

Abstract

A tripe washing and refining apparatus (10) including a base (20), a vessel (14), and a motor (16) is disclosed. The vessel (14) includes a selectively reversible rotatable disc (30) and two baffles (32,34) extending from an annular side wall (24) above the disc (30). Disc projections (40,42,44) extend from an upper surface (38) of the disc (30) and present opposed washing (48) and refining (50) surfaces, wherein the washing surface (48) is substantially smooth and the refining surface (50) is gritted. The baffles (32,34) likewise present opposed washing (60) and refining (62) surfaces. When the rotating disc (30) is rotated in a first direction, the washing surfaces of the disc projections (40,42,44) and the baffles (32,34) engage the tripe to agitate and wash it. When the rotating disc (30) is rotated in a second direction, the refining surfaces of the disc projections (40,42,44) and the baffles (32,34) engage the tripe to remove fat or other components from its exterior. The apparatus (10) further includes a washing fluid inlet nozzle (70), a refining fluid inlet nozzle (72), and a cold water in-

let nozzle (74) for introducing fluids into the vessel (14) during tripe washing and refining cycles.